

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00
/030 W

-----081995 172340Z /73

O 172331Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8415

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, MX
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL

REF: STATE 039505

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IS ENTITY MOST APPROPRIATE FOR REPRESENTATIVES STOKES AND CHIEF COUNSEL BLAKEY TO MEET WITH REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND WOULD BE LIKELY TO PRODUCE QUICKEST RESULTS. NORMAL POINT OF CONTACT FOR EMBASSY WITH MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL IN SUCH CASES IS EMBASSY'S LEGAL ATTACHE AND STAFF.

2. AFTER PHONE CHECK WITH HIS HEADQUARTERS, LEGAL ATTACHE INFORMS US THAT QUESTION OF HIS OFFICE'S ROLE IN ASSISTING REP. STOKES AND GENERAL COUNSEL BLAKEY IS UNDER DISCUSSION WITHIN FBI HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON, AND POSITION IS LIKELY TO BE FORMULATED VERY SOON. FYI. WE UNDERSTAND FBI LEGAL COUNSEL MAY MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVE STOKES ON FEBRUARY 17, BUT MEXICAN ASPECTS OF INVESTIGATION NOT SPECIFICALLY ON AGENDA. END FYI. WE SUGGEST TO DEPT THAT IT WAIT OUTCOME OF THESE CONSULTATIONS BEFORE WE PROCEED FURTHER.

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3. EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO SUBMIT NOTE REGARDING CO-OPERATION IN THIS INVESTIGATION TO SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY REFER IT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL, BUT WE BELIEVE THIS PROCEDURE WOULD INVOLVE DELAY. IT WOULD PROBABLY BE MET WITH REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON EXACTLY WHAT ASSISTANCE CONGRES-

SIONAL GROUP WAS LOOKING FOR IN MEXICO, SPECIFIC IDENTIFY
OF WITNESSES OF INTEREST TO INVESTIGATION, AND OTHER
POINTS.

4. ACTION: REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONSULT COMMITTEE GENERAL
COUNSEL TO OBTAIN, AND SEND US, THIS SPECIFIC INFORMATION,
WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL IN ANY CASE IN DEFINING AREAS OF
INTEREST, WHETHER WE PROCEED DIRECTLY WITH ATTORNEY
GENERAL (KEEPING FOREIGN RELATIONS INFORMED), OR MAKE
INITIAL APPROACH TO FOREIGN RELATIONS. IN ANY EVENT,
WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON TIMING THAT CONGRESSIONAL
INVESTIGATORS HAVE IN MIND FOR VISIT TO MEXICO.

5. PLEASE ADVISE. THOMPSON

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